



## “The Center of the State”

A NEWSLETTER FOR EMPLOYEES OF THE CITY OF ASHEBORO

JANUARY 2014

### Chief Fire Inspector Jones Has Spent 30 Years Protecting the City He Loves

It took three tries for former Fire Chief **Jim McGlohon** to convince **Mike Jones** to take a job with the Asheboro Fire Department. It turned into a 30-year career.

As a native of North Asheboro, **Mike Jones** had a typical childhood, growing up with his two brothers. **Mike** attended North Asheboro Junior High the year it was opened in 1968, and played football, basketball, ran track and wrestled at Asheboro High, graduating in 1972. Just out of high school, he did bricklaying for a year, and then worked as a lineman and installer for Centel Telephone. In the mid-70's, he went to work for Randolph Telephone, and then went to work in maintenance at Stuart Furniture. He finally ended up selling electrical supplies for Hunt Electric for six years.

In June of 1979, he was living across from the North Asheboro Fire Station and decided to become a volunteer with the Asheboro Fire Department. **Mike** wasn't one of the little kids who always dreamed of being a fireman, but just thought it might be interesting. In 1982, **Chief McGlohon** hired him as a full-time firefighter, but at the last minute, **Mike** called him and told him he had changed his mind. About eight months later, they called and asked him again and he turned it down. But in 1984, **Mike** doesn't know what changed his mind, but he agreed to sign on for \$900 a month on May 1, 1984.

The first few weeks, **Mike** was so afraid he would miss a call that he didn't sleep a wink. The first time he actually heard the fire alarm, he was turned towards the wall and had a fight with the wall trying to get out from under the sheets and get out of bed. He never slept under the sheets again. The department was much more regimented and military-like in those days, with certain station cleaning and maintenance duties assigned for each day, and everybody ate all of their meals together at the station instead of going out to eat. Training was much more hands-on out in the field then, whereas now, it has evolved into much more book and classroom training.

In February 2000, **Mike** was promoted to Fire Marshal supervising the Fire Inspectors. And in July 2010, **City Manager John Ogburn** decided to separate the Fire Prevention services of the city from the Fire Department and moved their offices over to City Hall. **Mike** was then named Chief Fire Inspector. In this job, he and his fire inspectors make sure all businesses keep in compliance with all of the fire rules and regulations.

The part of the job **Mike** really enjoys is investigating

the causes of fires. **Mike** believes that combining the Planning Department, Building Inspections and Fire Inspections Departments has greatly improved customer services for our citizens. Now we have a one-stop shop for citizens. By the time they walk out of City Hall, they know exactly what they need to do to get their businesses open and how long they have to get it done. All departments are now informed of what's going on and are all on the same page.

**Mike** says that working for the city has provided him with opportunities he probably would have never been able to experience. In 1997, he was chosen as one of five people, sponsored by Rotary, who traveled to Brazil for six weeks on an ambassador program. The group visited thirteen different cities, and **Mike** was especially interested in visiting the fire departments in each city.

Over the past 30 years, **Mike** feels like we have improved the customer service we provide our citizens. He is also proud that the city has implemented a program that issues citations. Businesses now know that if they are written up for not meeting fire regulations in their buildings, they are going to not only have to fix the problems, but they are also going to have to pay a hefty fine on top of that. This new system has made the whole city safer.

In 1972, a group of friends asked **Mike** to come attend a local church and play on the church softball team. He got a spot on the softball team and also fell in love with Robin, the minister's daughter. They have been married now for 35 years and have one daughter, Amanda.

During his free time, **Mike** likes to ride his 2005 Road King Custom Harley-Davidson motorcycle. He and Robin have traveled to 39 of the 50 states, attending biker rallies. He also loves Duke football and basketball.

For a man that had to be pushed into coming to work for the city, **Mike** turned out to be one of the greatest public servants we've ever had. It won't be long until he'll be retiring and riding off into the sunset on his Harley, but until then, **Mike** will keep fighting to improve fire safety for the citizens of the city he loves.





## January Holidays

City offices will be closed on Wednesday, January 1 for New Year's Day, and on Monday, January 20 for Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

## Condolences

- We offer our deepest sympathy to **Greg Auman** (Water Maint), on the loss of his mother, Martha Auman, who passed away on November 24.
- We also offer our deepest sympathy to **Phil Henley** (Operations), on the loss of his wife, Linda Henley, who passed away on Dec. 12.

## Happy Retirement !!!

We offer our congratulations and best wishes to **Keith Seabolt** (Fire), upon his retirement on December 31, after more than 30 years of service. At the time of his retirement, **Keith** served as a Fire Captain.

## Vision Benefit Change Effective January 1, 2014

- Eye exam, per Plan Participant per Calendar Year....\$60 (no Change)
- Frames, lenses, **In a Calendar Year**.....\$250 (new)

Please note this change in your plan book for future reference.

## Promotions

### Police

**Noah Phillips**– Police Officer II

### Wastewater Maintenance

**Seth Clapp** – Waster Distribution System Tech I

### Fire

**Frankie Kelly**– Fire Captain

**Matt Needham**—Fire Lieutenant

## January Service Anniversaries

### 20 Years

**Jerry Cox**– Systems Maintenance

### 15 Years

**Charles Burrow**– Police

### 10 Years

**Joey Bowman**– Fire

### 5 Years

**James Moore**– Police

**Tom Scaramastra**– Engineering

**David Wilburn**—Water Meter

**Tammy Williams**—Water Billing

## January Birthdays

**Greg Abernethy**

**Derrick Britt**

**Linda Carter**

**Matt Clapp**

**Andrew Connor**

**Ricky Croker**

**Todd DeHaven**

**Danny Floyd**

**James Henley**

**Phillip Hogan**

**Stan Hussey**

**Kevin Ingold**

**Frankie Kelly**

**Marcus Lowery**

**Justin Luck**

**Bryan McKenzie**

**Johnny Miller**

**Christian Morgan**

**Robert Potts**

**Travis Rich**

**Chris Schadt**

**Robbie Shortridge**

**Richard Stanley**

**Bruce Tuttle**

**Abigail Voncannon**

**Ricky Watts**



## Reassignment

### Water Maintenance

**Chad Cox**– Water/Sewer Technician III

## Schadt Named Operator of the Year

Congratulations to **Chris Schadt** (Wastewater Treatment Plant), who was recently named the Wastewater Treatment Operator of the Year by the State of North Caro-

## New Employee Assistance Provider

Effective January 1, 2014, the City will have a new Employee Assistance Program Provider, "Asheboro Psychiatric Services." The office is led by Dr. Harold Lilly and is located at 723 South Cox Street. Dr. Lilly's "Lifecycle to Recovery" Program is an experienced counseling practice, trained to assess and cope with a variety of emotional and relationship problems. They offer outpatient and family therapy. Services are offered by appointment only. The office is open Monday through Thursday, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 Noon, and from 1:00 to 6:00 p.m.

Telephone Number: (336) 626-9139.

## ANNUAL LAB WORK UPS

### STARTING: January 13, 2014

Most of us know we should have an annual checkup, but do we actually do it? If we have one every year, do we actually know if it is complete or not? And, do we actually understand the tests? The City Clinic, Nurse/Nurse Practitioner, will do their Best to provide each employee with personalized care.

Starting, January 13, the City of Asheboro will start scheduling for lab work ups – scheduled by phone. The City Nurse/Nurse Practitioner will do thorough labs on all employees who anticipate. Then, after the lab results are in, the Nurse Practitioner will do an individual lab review, if requested by the employee.

Your yearly blood work up will include blood count to rule out any bleeding problems, glucose levels to detect diabetes, thyroid function tests to rule out any thyroid disorder, and blood electrolyte counts, which can detect kidney problems and early heart problems. Your doctor may also ask for your lab results too.

There are other health prevention tests procedures done in the City Clinic that you may are not aware of. Listed below are just some of the things the City Clinic can provide:

Blood Pressure – Routine checks

Blood Sugar Levels – Routine checks

Fecal Occult Blood Test

Prostate Exam

Breast Exam

Pap Smear/Pelvic Exam and various other studies

Remember, you must fast for 12-hours before labs.

Drink plain water or Black coffee only before labs.

